

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A method for re-using diffused cell-based IP blocks in a structured application specific integrated circuit comprising the steps of:

implementing an original view of one or more blocks of intellectual property (IP) using a plurality of cell-based building blocks, wherein all of said plurality of cell based building blocks are used by said one or more blocks of intellectual property; and

providing one or more alternative views for at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property, wherein each of said one or more alternative views (i) realizes an alternative functionality for said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property and (ii) re-uses at least one cell-based building block used in said original view by said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

2. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said cell-based building blocks comprise one or more standard cell gates.

3. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, wherein said cell-based building blocks comprise one or more of a logic gate, a buffer and a flip-flop.

4. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 2, wherein placement of said standard cell gates is fixed when said one or more blocks of intellectual ~~proper~~ property are placed on a base wafer.

5. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 1, further comprising the step of:

generating said one or more alternative views during design of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

6. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 5, wherein one or more of said one or more alternative views are generated manually.

7. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 5, wherein one or more of said one or more alternative views are generated with a text editor.

8. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 5, wherein said one or more alternative views are generated automatically.

9. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 8, wherein said one or more alternative views are generated from RTL using ECO

compiler tools that target an existing set of diffused cell-based gates.

10. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim 5, wherein one or more of said one or more alternative views are generated prior to instantiation.

11. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The method according to claim ~~4~~ 5, wherein generating said one or more alternative views comprises the step of:

modifying a netlist for each of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

12. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 11, wherein any unused building blocks are tied off in said modified netlist.

13. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 11, further comprising the step of:

mapping said modified netlist onto a placement of a corresponding one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

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14. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 13, further comprising the step of:

generating a layout view of said one or more blocks of intellectual property corresponding to said modified netlist.

15. (ORIGINAL) The method according to claim 14, further comprising the step of:

routing said one or more blocks of intellectual property based upon said modified netlist.

16. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) A computer readable medium comprising:

a default view of one or more blocks of intellectual property (IP) using a plurality of cell-based building blocks,
5 wherein all of said plurality of cell based building blocks are
used by said one or more blocks of intellectual property; and

one or more alternative views of at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property, wherein each of said one or more alternative views (i) realizes an alternative functionality
10 for said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual
property and (ii) re-uses at least one cell-based building block
used in said default view by said at least one of said one or more
blocks of intellectual property.

17. (ORIGINAL) The computer readable medium according to claim 16, wherein said one or more alternative views comprise a

modified netlist for said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

18. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) ~~an~~ An integrated circuit comprising:

a base layer containing one or more blocks of intellectual property (IP) using a plurality of cell-based building blocks according to an original view, wherein all of said plurality of cell based building blocks are used by said one or more blocks of intellectual property; and

one or more metal layers instantiating said one or more blocks of intellectual property, wherein said one or more metal layers comprise routing based upon an alternative view for at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property, wherein said alternative view (i) realizes an alternative functionality from said original view for said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property and (ii) re-uses at least one cell-based building block used in said original view by said at least one of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

19. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The integrated circuit according to claim 18, wherein said alternative view comprises a modified netlist for said at least one ~~block~~ of said one or more blocks of intellectual property.

20. (CURRENTLY AMENDED) The integrated circuit according to claim 19, wherein said modified netlist for said at least one ~~block~~ of said one or more blocks of intellectual property comprises one or more standard cell gates that are tied off.